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Identical letters dated 24 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 23 June 2001 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 26 May to 11 June 2001 they carried out 388 sorties, 128 of them from Saudi Arabia, 136 from Kuwait and 124 from Turkey.

The Minister reaffirms the Government of Iraq's condemnation of these acts of aggression against Iraqi territory, and he states that international responsibility for them must be borne by the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the logistic support for this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey. He urges you to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by halting this unwarranted aggression and ensuring that it does not recur.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Al-Douri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 24 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. They carried out 388 sorties in the period from 26 May to 11 June 2001, 128 of them from Saudi Arabia, 136 from Kuwait and 124 from Turkey, as shown hereunder.

1. In the northern region 124 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1200 hours on 27 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Baibo, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Mosul, Irbil, Rawanduz, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1215 hours on 28 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Dohuk, Irbil, Dokan, Ayn Zalah, Tall Afar, Sinjar and Mosul areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1515 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1230 hours on 29 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 12 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Dohuk, Irbil, Mosul, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Sinjar and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1530 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1118 hours on 4 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Tall Afar, Mosul, Sinjar and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1150 hours on 5 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Dohuk, Aqrah, Zakho, Ayn Zalah, Tall Afar, Sinjar, Rawanduz and Mosul areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1450 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1035 hours on 6 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1110 hours, drove them off.

(g) At 1200 hours on 7 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Sinjar, Tall Afar and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1530 hours, drove them off.

(h) At 1130 hours on 11 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Irbil, Aqrah, Sinjar and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 264 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 2315 hours on 26 May 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out four missions from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Busayyah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2345 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 2120 hours on 27 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 missions, 14 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and two from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Lasaf, Busayyah, Shinafiyah, Basrah, Samawah, Diwaniyah and Taqtaqanah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2345 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 2235 hours on 28 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 19 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and seven from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Hayy, Qal'at Sukkar, Samawah, Jalibah, Lasaf and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2355 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 2215 hours on 29 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 missions, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from the Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Qal`at Salih, Amarah and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2330 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 2105 hours on 30 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 15 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and three from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Jalibah, Amarah, Lasaf, Qal`at Sukkar, Hayy, Diwaniyah, Najaf and Nukhayb areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2400 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1030 hours on 2 June 2001, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out seven missions, four of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and three from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1230 hours, drove them off.

(g) At 0820 hours on 5 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 53 missions, 28 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 25 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Shatrah, Rifa`i, Salman, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Ashbajah, Lasaf, Shinafiyah, Amarah, Qurnah, Hayy, Basrah, Hashimiyah and Taqtaqanah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

(h) At 0820 hours on 6 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 37 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 25 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Qal`at Salih and Hashimiyah

areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1130 hours, drove them off.

(i) At 1025 hours on 7 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 38 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 26 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Basrah, Samawah, Amarah, Qal`at Salih, Qal`at Sukkar, Jalibah, Salman and Shinafiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1205 hours, drove them off.

(j) At 1040 hours on 10 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 30 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 18 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Amarah, Salman, Qal`at Sukkar and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

(k) At 0935 hours on 11 June 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 31 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 21 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Ma`aniyah, Ashbajah, Lasaf and Shinafiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1100 hours, drove them off.

This aggression illustrates the bellicose attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials.

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-flight zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the consequences of this illegal decision and, in particular, the flimsy excuses and pretexts used by these States in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British has made these countries key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear full international responsibility

under international law. This includes liability for full compensation for the loss and damage, in both human and material terms, that is caused by these illegal practices.

The Government of Iraq further renews its call to the countries participating in this aggression to desist forthwith from internationally prohibited acts that violate Iraq's sovereignty, place its security and integrity in grave danger and pose a direct and serious threat to international peace and security.

As it condemns these acts of aggression against Iraqi targets and installations, the Government of Iraq urges you to perform the duties assigned to you [under the Charter] as they relate to the maintenance of international peace and security by intervening with the governments of the countries in question with a view to inducing them to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their constant and unwarranted aggression against an independent, sovereign State.

(*Signed*) Tariq **Aziz**
Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs